

# PANDEMIC INFLUENZA SUMMIT



emergency planning summit.

A collaborative effort among several of the departments within our State government has been underway to prepare for this event. And, now it is up to us to do the work. Our job today is to discuss the federal and state preparedness efforts and continue the important task of building readiness. We are fortunate that our task is somewhat easier than those of other states. Leaders in our Department of Health and Mental Hygiene identified influenza pandemic as a potential issue several years ago and have been working since 1999 to develop preparedness plans, but that does not mean our work is complete.

We need your help to bolster our plan. The ideas we share today will lead to an even stronger level of preparedness for those who live in the Great State of Maryland.

Again, thank you for your participation.

*Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.*  
Governor

## MARYLAND PANDEMIC INFLUENZA SUMMIT

Sponsored by the Governor's Office

### PARTICIPATING STATE AGENCIES

Maryland Department of Health  
and Mental Hygiene

Maryland Emergency Management Agency

Maryland Institute for Emergency  
Medical Services Systems

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Maryland State Department of Education

Maryland Department of Business and  
Economic Development

Governor's Office of Homeland Security



Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor | Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor

# MARYLAND



## PANDEMIC INFLUENZA SUMMIT

February 24, 2006  
Maritime Institute  
Linthicum Heights, Maryland



# PANDEMIC INFLUENZA SUMMIT

One of the most important health issues facing our nation and the world today is the threat of a global, or pandemic disease outbreak. In the past century, we have experienced influenza pandemics three times: most recently in 1968 and 1957, as well as the infamous “Great Influenza” of 1918, which killed 40 to 50 million people worldwide. Scientists’ predictions of an emergent viral strain with pandemic potential may be realized with the re-appearance of avian H5N1 virus in 2003. We must do everything in our power today to prevent and mitigate the effects of another catastrophic outbreak tomorrow.

In November 2005, the nation’s strategy for pandemic influenza preparedness was outlined and shared with the states. This strategic plan requires international involvement and cooperation. On the domestic front, coordination among federal, state and local governments is particularly critical to mitigate the effects of an outbreak. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Michael O. Leavitt was charged with bringing together state and local public health officials from across the nation to discuss their preparations for a pandemic and to help them improve pandemic planning at the community level. In response to that call, Secretary Leavitt and other top officials are visiting each state, territory, and Washington, D.C. to engage in a dialog with state and local leaders at a summit on preparedness.

Join Maryland and federal  
officials at this important  
summit – every voice is welcome.

# MARYLAND PREPARES!

## PANDEMIC FLU PROGRAM

8:30 a.m. Registration and Refreshments

### PREPARING A STATE AND NATION

10:00 a.m.

#### Welcome

S. Anthony McCann, Secretary  
*Maryland Department of Health &  
Mental Hygiene*

#### A State Prepares

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.

#### A Nation Prepares

Michael O. Leavitt, Secretary  
*U.S. Department of Health &  
Human Services*

#### Conversation with Audience

Governor Ehrlich & Secretary Leavitt

#### Signing of Planning Agreement

Governor Ehrlich & Secretary Leavitt

### CONNECTING “WHAT WE KNOW” WITH “HOW TO PREPARE”

Moderator:

Michelle A. Gourdine, MD., Deputy  
Secretary, Maryland Department of Health  
and Mental Hygiene

#### National Pandemic Flu

#### Preparedness Planning

Richard H. Carmona, MD., MPH, FACS  
*U.S. Surgeon General*

#### National Emergency

Thomas J. Lockwood, Director  
*Office of National Capital Region  
Coordination, U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security*

#### Dialogue with Audience

U.S. Surgeon General Carmona and  
ONCRC Director Lockwood

11:45 a.m.

#### Lunch

12:45 p.m.

### BRINGING THE ISSUE HOME

#### Maryland Pandemic Preparedness Planning

Jean Taylor, DrPH, Epidemiologist  
*Maryland Department of Health &  
Mental Hygiene*

#### Emergency Response Case Study

Lewis R. Riley, Secretary  
*Maryland Department of Agriculture*

#### Agriculture Community

Guy Hohenhaus, DVM, State  
Veterinarian, *Maryland Department of  
Agriculture*

#### Health and Medical Community

Richard L. Alcorta, MD., State EMS  
Medical Director, *Maryland Institute  
for Emergency Medical Services Systems*

#### Business Community

Aris Melissaratos, Secretary  
*Maryland Department of Business &  
Economic Development*

#### School Community

Richard J. Steinke, Deputy State  
Superintendent, *Maryland State  
Department of Education*

#### Next Steps and Adjournment

Michelle A. Gourdine, MD.

Agenda subject to change.

Information on Maryland’s Pandemic Influenza Summit program  
can be viewed on [flu.Maryland.gov](http://flu.Maryland.gov)



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## SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

### Michael O. Leavitt

Michael O. Leavitt is secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the department responsible for the nation's preparedness for health emergencies, including pandemics. He was administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and a three-term governor of Utah.

### Richard H. Carmona

Vice Admiral Richard H. Carmona is surgeon general of the United States Public Health Service, and is responsible for educating Americans about health issues. He is a physician and has a background in emergency services. He has served as a chief medical officer, hospital chief executive officer, public health officer and CEO of a county health care system.

### Thomas J. Lockwood

Thomas J. Lockwood is director of the Office of National Capital Region Coordination, the unit within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security responsible for oversight and coordination of federal programs in the Washington, D.C. area. Previously, he was homeland security advisory and deputy director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security in Maryland.

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### Richard L. Alcorta

Richard L. Alcorta is state emergency medical services director at the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems.

A practicing emergency medicine physician, Dr. Alcorta's background includes service as an emergency medical technician (ambulance) and paramedic.

### Michelle A. Gourdine

Michelle A. Gourdine is deputy secretary for public health services at the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. A pediatrician, Dr. Gourdine is responsible for all public health programs and county health departments in the state. She previously served as Baltimore County health officer.

### **Guy Hohenhaus**

Guy Hohenhaus is Maryland's state veterinarian and chief of animal health programs in the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Dr. Hohenhaus has been a member of the faculty of the University of Maryland and served as the state public health veterinarian for the state Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

### **S. Anthony McCann**

S. Anthony McCann is secretary of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. He served as Director of Financial Affairs for the Smithsonian Institution. Previously, he served as assistant secretary at the Department of Health and Human Services and the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs. He is a member of the faculty of Georgetown University.

### **Aris Melissaratos**

Aris Melissaratos is secretary of the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development. His 40-year career in the private sector includes over three decades as a defense electronics executive at Westinghouse, a key leader of Thermo Electron Corporation, and founder of Armel Private Equity Investments.

### **Lewis R. Riley**

Lewis R. Riley is Maryland's Secretary of Agriculture. Secretary Riley has been a farmer, poultryman and businessman for more than 50 years. Prior to his appointment as secretary, he served 25 years as an elected official – 12 years in county government and 13 years as a member of the Maryland General Assembly.

### **Richard J. Steinke**

Richard J. Steinke is deputy state superintendent for the Office of Instruction and Academic Acceleration, the office within the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) responsible for pandemic preparedness. He was former teacher and administrator in the Baltimore City school system.

### **Jean Taylor**

Jean Taylor is a senior epidemiologist at the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, where she has worked for 20 years in communicable disease control and prevention. Since 1999, Dr. Taylor has led and coordinated pandemic influenza preparedness activities for the state of Maryland.